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## *New roadway under construction in Dhi Qar Province*

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**DHI QAR**, Iraq--In cooperation with the Iraqi Ministry of Roads and Bridges, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is constructing the An Nasiriyah-Al Diwaniyah (Al Eshtarki Road) road project in the Al Fajir District of Dhi Qar Province.

Michael Fellenz, project engineer with the USACE Gulf Region South district, said the intent of this project is to connect paved roads for everyday use by the local population. In addition to providing invaluable access to major arteries throughout the governorate, this project will also please the local populace and help restore national security.

The two lane road will connect Al Fajir District with the highway of Al Diwaniyah Province. "The contractor's responsibility was to review the existing design, revise and complete the design as necessary, and construct the roads to meet the requirements of the contract," Fellenz said. The design also included the excavation and installation of more than 605 linear meters of culverts, he said.

According to Fali Ali, GRS project engineer, the two lane bituminous roadway is to be 21 kilometers long, six-meters wide with a two-meter shoulder on each side. "The contractor is to construct the roadway pavement section with depths of asphalt bituminous base course and crushed aggregate sub base per approved pavement design," Ali said. "All work



An Iraqi contract worker spaces out reinforcing bar as a form is constructed for a box culvert as part of the Al Eshtarki Road project in Al Fajir district in Dhi Qar Province in Iraq. (USACE photo)

meets with the specifications and the measurements of the Roads and Bridges Directorate."

The project engineer said there have been no troubles at all between the Al Fa-

jir's people and the contractor during the construction of the road. The provincial Reconstruction and Development Team of Al Fijir has been very cooperative with the contractor and his laborers. "They even cook for them and were very happy to have a new paved road in their area. For the very good treatment and the cooperation of the people of Al Fajir District in Thi Qar Province, the contractor volunteered to fund and build 500 hundred meters to connect the new road with the highway of Al Diwanyiah," Ali said.

Fellenz said that the road is important because it serves the population of Al Fajir and connects neighborhoods and the two Iraqi provinces for the transport of agricultural products.



An Iraqi police patrol provides the contractor with security he needs to complete his job. (USACE photo)

**Note:** Mohammed Aliwi is a Media Relations Officer works for the Gulf Region South district, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Iraq. For more information, contact John Connor, public affairs officer at 540-665-2656 or email requests to [CEGRD.PAO@tac01.usace.army.mil](mailto:CEGRD.PAO@tac01.usace.army.mil). For more information on the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in Iraq, visit [www.grd.usace.army.mil](http://www.grd.usace.army.mil)